

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /102 W

-----029646 061926Z /41

R 060859Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6535

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 3258

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC

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PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: EFIN, ECIN, ETRD, PORG, FR, SZ, GW

SUBJ: FRENCH PRIME MINISTER RAYMOND BARRE'S VISIT TO

BERN, LAUSANNE - JUNE 30

1. SUMMARY: BARRE RECEIVED THE COUDENHOVE-KALERGI EUROPEAN PRIZE AT LAUSANNE FOR HIS ACTIONS IN FURTHERING CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. ACCORDING OUR SOURCE, BARRE'S REMARKS TO SWISS IN BERN ON EUROPE (U.S. OF EUROPE WAS, IS, WILL REMAIN MYTH) MADE HIM WONDER ABOUT WISDOM OF CHOOSING BARRE FOR THIS AWARD. BARRE AND SWISS ALSO DISCUSSED GISCARD-SCHMIDT AIM IN MONETARY AREA WHICH IS EUROPEAN MONETARY ZONE INDEPENDENT OF DOLLAR; FRENCH ECONOMY. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARY GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT WEITNAUER, WHO PARTICIPATED, GAVE AMBASSADOR FOLLOWING ACCOUNT BARRE'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SWISS PRESIDENT RITSCHARD, FONMIN AUBERT:

A. EUROPE. A POLITICALLY UNITED EUROPE (UNITED STATES OF EUROPE) WAS, IS AND WILL REMAIN A MYTH. WHAT BARRE PROJECTED WAS A CONGRESS OF VIENNA MADE PERMANENT, WITH COUNCIL AS EXECUTIVE, COMMISSION TO CARRY OUT COUNCIL DECISIONS. ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS MEANING, IMPACT DIRECTION ELECTION PARLIAMENT, BARRE REPLIED "NONE WHATSOEVER." SAID PARLIAMENT DOES NOT, WILL NOT HAVE REAL POLITICAL POWER.

B. GISCARD-SCHMIDT MONETARY POLICY AIRMS. BARRE SAID AIM
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IS TO CREATE EUROPEAN MONETARY ZONE INDEPENDENT OF DOLLAR. SWISS ASKED HIM THIS POSSIBLE SINCE DIFFICULT SEE HOW EUROPEAN MONETARY UNIT COULD BE DEVELOPED WHICH WOULD REPLACE DOLLAR AS RESERVE CURRENCY. BARRE DID NOT RESPOND IN DETAIL; SIMPLY REITERATED THAT PURPOSE TO SETUP ZONE INDEPENDENT OF DOLLAR. SWISS ALSO ASKED HOW WIDE BANDS WOULD BE; WHAT WOULD TRIGGER INTERVENTION; POINTING OUT LACK SUCCESS, INFLATIONARY IMPACT MASSIVE INTERVENTION AGAINST FUNDAMENTAL TRENDS. BARRE SAID BANDS WOULD HAVE TO BE QUITE WIDE, DID NOT GO INTO FURTHER DETAIL. IN RESPONSE AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION, WEITNAUER SAID BARRE DID NOT ASK SWISS TO JOIN; IF SUCH A ZONE, GOING WELL BEYOND SNAKE, WERE SET UP, WOULD POSE SERIOUS AND DIFFICULT QUESTIONS FOR SWITZERLAND.

C. FRENCH ECONOMY. BARRE VERY CONFIDENT. SAID FRENCH HAVE ADOPTED GERMAN MODEL, WILL CONTINUE TO FREE FRENCH ECONOMY FROM RESTRICTIONS; ARE CONVINCED RESULTS WILL BE SEEN TO HAVE JUSTIFIED SHORT-TERM DISLOCATIONS QUITE SOON.
WARNER

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TAGS: EFIN, ECIN, ETRD, PORG, FR, SZ, GE, (BARRE, RAYMOND)
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